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520.35237CV4

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: T. KAJI, et al.  
Application No.: 10/808,559  
Filed: March 25, 2004  
For: A PLASMA PROCESSING APPARATUS  
Art Unit: 1763  
Examiner: M. Crowell

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**MS: AMENDMENTS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 8, 2005

Sir:

In supplement to the Third Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, the Second Supplemental Preliminary Amendment and Request for Interview filed on January 4, 2005, please further amend the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

**Amendments to the Claims and**

**Remarks follow the amendments.**

discharge confining means surrounding the vacuum processing chamber and forming the electrode cover, the susceptible cover and the discharge confining means to be comprised of silicon. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that method claim 26 is so closely related to the apparatus claims 8-25 that common examination is warranted. In addition, it is respectfully submitted by virtue of defining the features of the discharge confining means and the formation of the electrode cover, the susceptible cover and the discharge confining means to be comprised of silicon, method claim 26 contains the same distinctions over the cited prior art discussed above for the apparatus claims 8-25. Therefore, entry, consideration and allowance of newly presented method claim 26 is also respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 520.35237CV4), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,  
**ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP**

By 

Gregory E. Montone  
Reg. No. 28,141

GEM/dks  
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